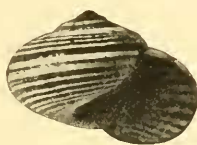


DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF *PELTATUS* FROM BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

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*Read 14th May, 1915.**PELTATUS POLYSTEPHES*,¹ n.sp.

Shell narrowly umbilicate, depressedly turbinate, thin, with suture slightly marked; whorls 5, rounded, increasing rapidly, the ultimate and penultimate being somewhat flattened above, while the first three whorls rise in a rather acute spire; apical whorl smooth and more or less shining, the other four being marked with fairly regular lines of growth—much finer and closer together on whorls two and three than they are on the two last; colour olivaceous, with an endlessly variable series of chalky-white bands; the bands vary greatly in width and in number, sometimes being reduced to mere threads of white, or they coalesce broadly as in forms of *Helix nemoralis*; rarely the shell is all but white with faint indications of olive bands; the outline of the aperture, if completed, would almost form a circle, but is slightly flattened in the plane of the spire; margin of aperture acute, regularly curved; columellar margin reflected over the umbilicus. Diam. maj. 12, min. 10 mm.; alt. 9 mm.



Hab.—Teita Hills, British East Africa, between 4,500 and 6,000 feet. (W. Feather.)

By Mr. Gude's advice I place it in the genus *Peltatus*, on account of its close resemblance to *P. cotyledonis* (Benson),² and he has also been kind enough to furnish me with the following particulars in which *P. polystephes* differs from *P. cotyledonis*; the whorls increase more rapidly, the last whorl being proportionately much wider; they are also more tumid and more strongly transversely striated by the lines of growth, in fact it might almost be stated that *P. polystephes* is finely irregularly ribbed. The aperture is more transversely dilated and the columellar margin is a little more oblique.

¹ πολυστεφής = decked with many wreaths.

² Cf. Godwin-Austen in Ann. Nat. Hist., ser. VIII, vol. ix, p. 134, 1912.

With an equal number of whorls *P. cotyledonis* measures 16 mm. in diameter, whereas *P. polystephes* is only 12 mm. The markings are also different.

A large number of this species was collected by Mr. Feather and forwarded alive, but they did not survive the journey. Whether any of the specimens are quite mature is questionable. Under a 1 inch objective there are distinct traces of microscopically fine spiral striae on the apical whorl.

I have placed the type in the collection of the British Museum.